

# Photonics

## Electromagnetism

Maxwell equations, dielectric media,  
polarization, reflection and transmission,  
layered structures





# Maxwell EM wave equations

- **Maxwell:**

(in a medium  
with no free charges)

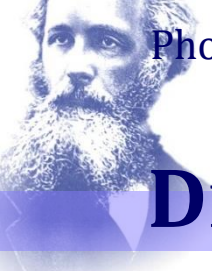
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \nabla \times \mathbf{H} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{D}}{\partial t} \\ \nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} = 0 \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

- **Constitutive laws:**

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{D} = \varepsilon_0 \mathbf{E} + \mathbf{P} \\ \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \mathbf{H} + \mu_0 \mathbf{M} \end{array} \right.$$

- **P and M describe the response of a material to the incident field**

- **Poynting vector:  $\mathbb{P} = \mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{H}$**



# Dielectric media

- **Linear media:** linear relations between  $\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{r},t)$  and  $\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r},t)$
- **Homogeneous media:** relation between  $\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{r},t)$  and  $\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r},t)$  is not dependent on the position  $\mathbf{r}$
- **Isotropic media:** relation between  $\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{r},t)$  and  $\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r},t)$  is not dependent on the direction of  $\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r},t)$
- **Non-dispersive media:** material response is instantaneous;  $\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{r},t)$  at a time  $t$  is determined by  $\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r},t)$  at the same time  $t$ , and not by the values of  $\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r},t)$  at previous times
- **Spatially non-dispersive media:**  $\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{r},t)$  at a location  $\mathbf{r}$  is determined by  $\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r},t)$  at the same location  $\mathbf{r}$

birefringence in calcite crystal:  
non-isotropic medium





# Homogeneous, linear, non-dispersive, non-magnetic and isotropic media

- $\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{r}, t)$  and  $\mathbf{D}(\mathbf{r}, t)$  can be written as:

$$\mathbf{P} = \varepsilon_0 \chi \mathbf{E}$$

$$\mathbf{D} = \varepsilon \mathbf{E} \quad \text{with} \quad \varepsilon = \varepsilon_0(1 + \chi)$$

$$\mathbf{D} = \varepsilon_0 \mathbf{E} + \mathbf{P}$$

$$\mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \mathbf{H} + \mu_0 \mathbf{M}$$

- Maxwell equations become:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \nabla \times \mathbf{H} = \varepsilon \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} \\ \nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\mu_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{H}}{\partial t} \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = 0 \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{H} = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

- Scalar wave equation holds for every field component  $u$ :

$$\nabla^2 u - \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = 0, \quad \text{with} \quad v^2 = \frac{1}{\varepsilon \mu_0} \quad \text{and} \quad n = \frac{c}{v}$$



# TEM wave

- The transversal electromagnetic plane wave (TEM) is expressed by complex amplitudes:

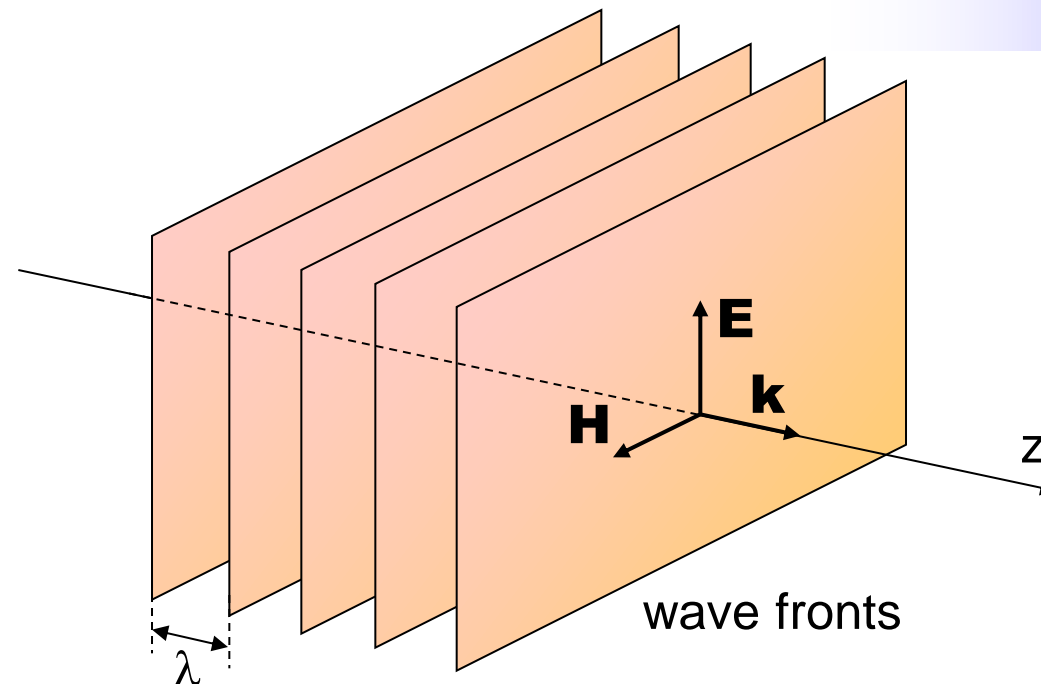
$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \text{Re}[\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r})e^{j\omega t}] \\ \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \text{Re}[\mathbf{H}(\mathbf{r})e^{j\omega t}] \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}) = \mathbf{E}_0 e^{-j\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r}} \\ \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{r}) = \mathbf{H}_0 e^{-j\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r}} \end{cases}$$

- To satisfy the Maxwell equations we have:

$$k = \omega \sqrt{\epsilon \mu_0} = \frac{\omega}{v} = \frac{n\omega}{c} = nk_0$$

$$\frac{E_0}{H_0} = Z = \frac{Z_0}{n} = \frac{\omega \mu_0}{k}$$
$$Z_0 = \sqrt{\frac{\mu_0}{\epsilon_0}}$$





# Polarization of EM waves

- **Polarization:** orientation of the field vector in a particular location in space changes in time
- Polarization is **important for interaction with matter:**
  - Reflection and transmission coefficients are dependent on the polarization







# Polarization of EM waves

- **Polarization:** orientation of the field vector in a particular location in space changes in time
- Polarization is **important for interaction with matter:**
  - Reflection and transmission coefficients are dependent on the polarization
  - Absorption is polarization dependent
  - $n$  of anisotropic materials depends on the polarization
- In general, a monochromatic plane wave with frequency  $\nu$  propagating in the  $z$ -direction with the electric field in the  $xy$ -plane is described by:

$$\mathbf{E}(z, t) = \text{Re}\left[\mathbf{A}e^{j2\pi\nu\left(t-\frac{z}{c}\right)}\right] \quad \text{or} \quad \mathbf{E}(z, t) = \text{Re}\left[\mathbf{A}e^{j\omega t}e^{-jkz}\right]$$

$$\mathbf{A} = A_x\mathbf{e}_x + A_y\mathbf{e}_y$$



# Elliptical polarization

- Substitution with  $A_x = a_x e^{j\phi_x}$  and  $A_y = a_y e^{j\phi_y}$  gives

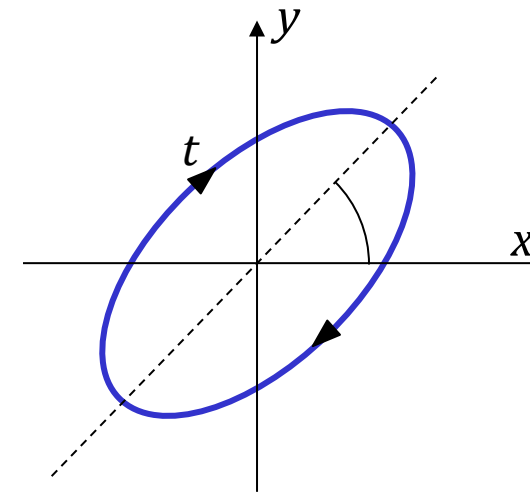
$$\mathbf{E}(z, t) = E_x \mathbf{e}_x + E_y \mathbf{e}_y$$

where

$$\begin{cases} E_x = a_x \cos \left[ 2\pi\nu \left( t - \frac{z}{c} \right) + \phi_x \right] \\ E_y = a_y \cos \left[ 2\pi\nu \left( t - \frac{z}{c} \right) + \phi_y \right] \end{cases}$$

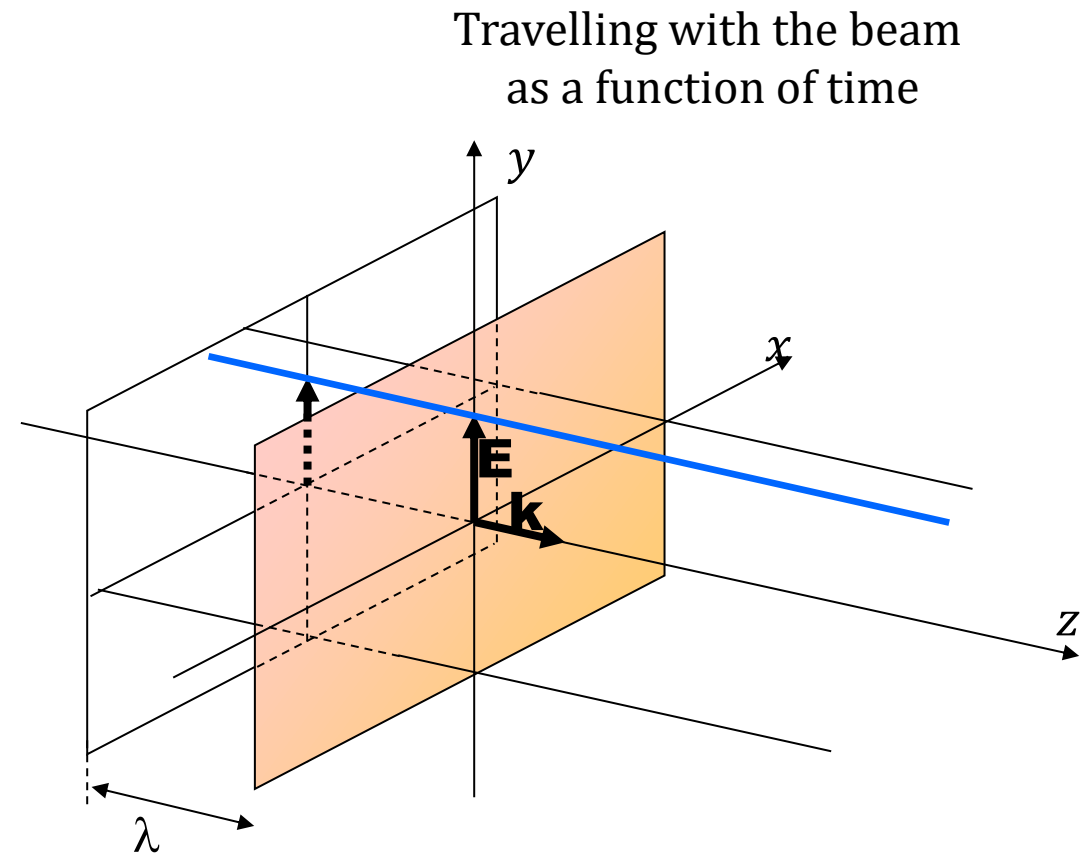
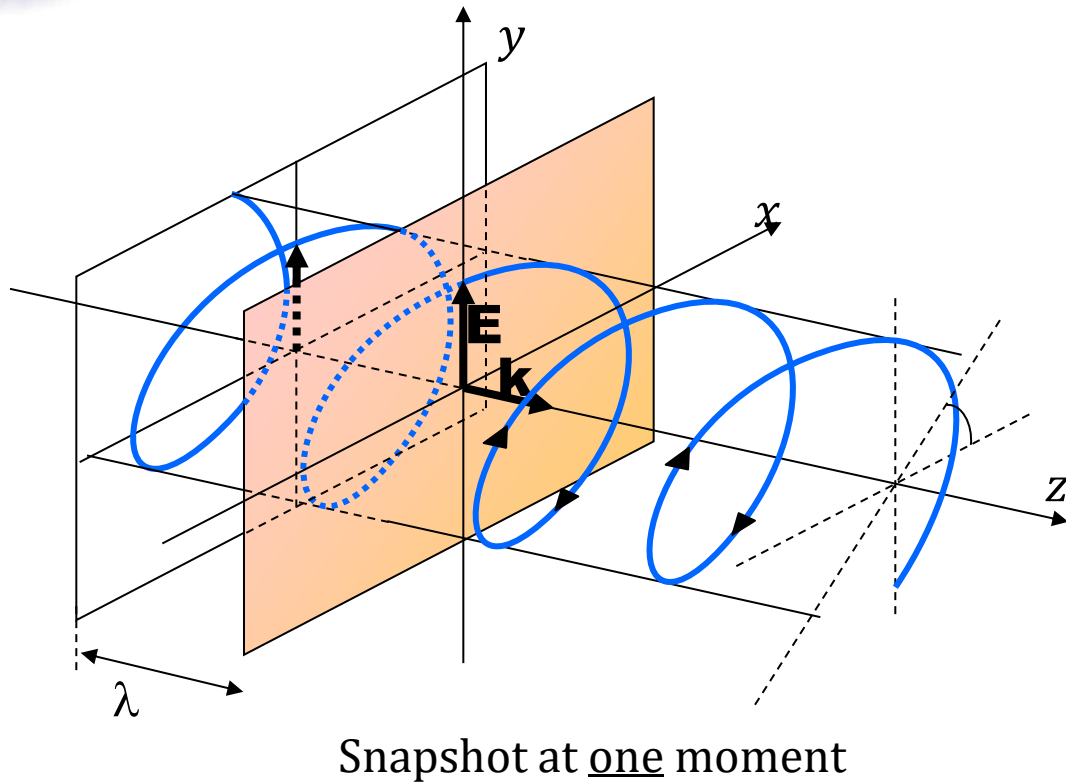
$$\Rightarrow \frac{E_x^2}{a_x^2} + \frac{E_y^2}{a_y^2} - 2 \cos \phi \frac{E_x E_y}{a_x a_y} = \sin^2 \phi$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E}(z, t) &= \text{Re}[\mathbf{A} e^{j\pi\nu(t-z/c)}] \\ \mathbf{A} &= A_x \mathbf{e}_x + A_y \mathbf{e}_y \end{aligned}$$





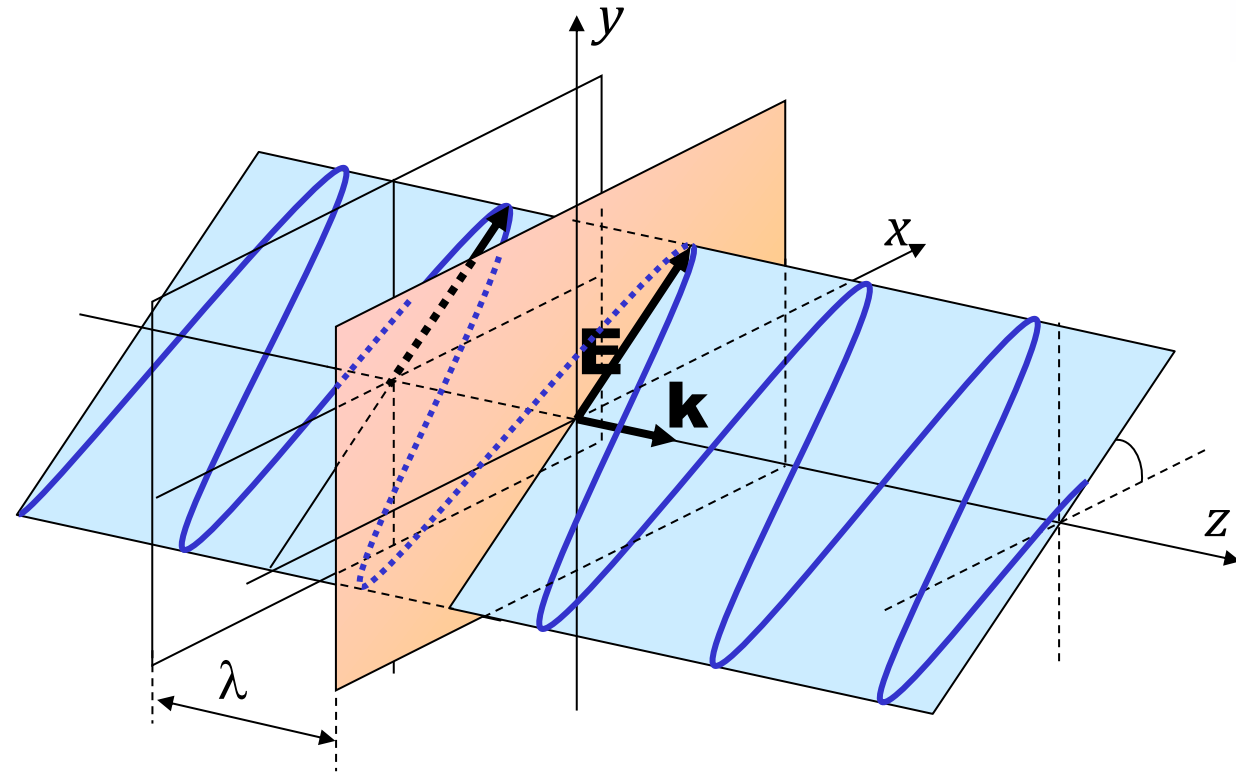
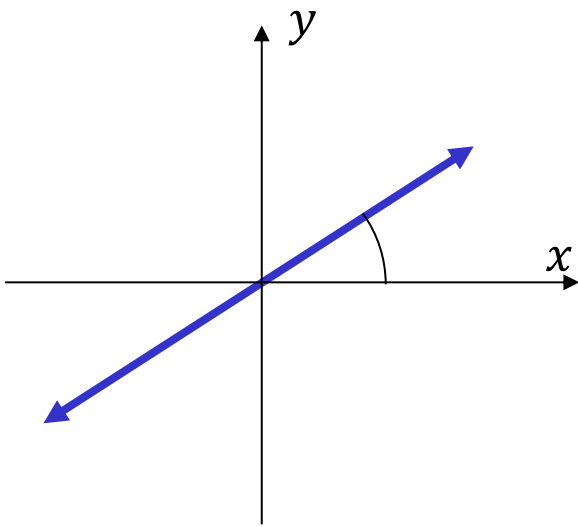
# Elliptical polarization



# Linear polarization

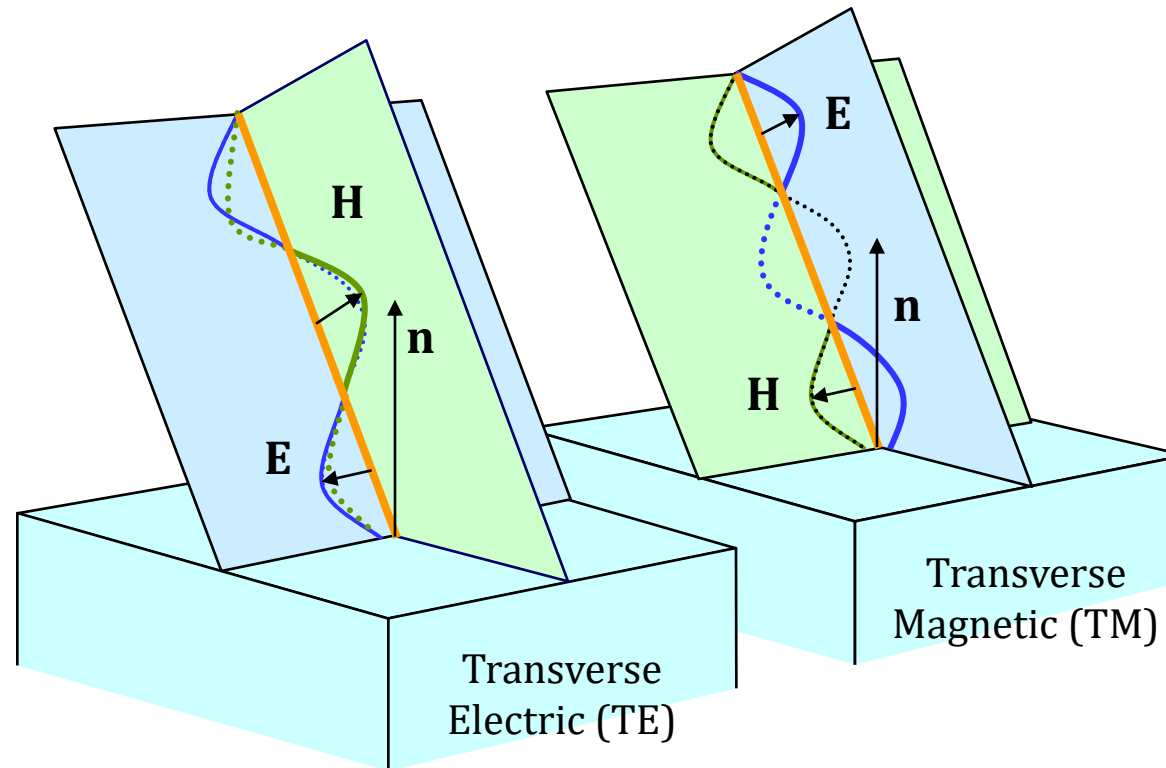
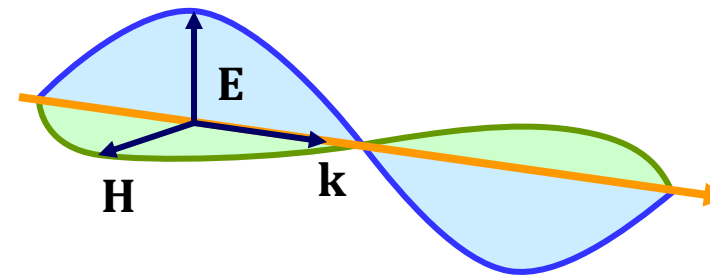
- A special case of elliptical polarization
  - One of the components is dropped, e.g.:  $a_x = 0$
  - If  $\phi = 0$  or  $\phi = \pi$

$$E_y = \pm \frac{a_y}{a_x} E_x$$



# Reflection and transmission: TE and TM waves

- TEM wave
  - electrical component  $\mathbf{E}$
  - magnetic component  $\mathbf{H}$
  - $\mathbf{E} \perp \mathbf{H} \perp \mathbf{k}$
  
- Orientation to the surface
  - TE wave:  $\mathbf{E} \perp \mathbf{n}$   
“s-polarization”
  - TM wave:  $\mathbf{H} \perp \mathbf{n}$   
“p-polarization”





# External reflection and transmission

- From lower to higher  $n$ : ( $n' > n$ )

$$r_{\text{TE}} = \frac{n \cos \theta - n' \cos \theta'}{n \cos \theta + n' \cos \theta'}$$

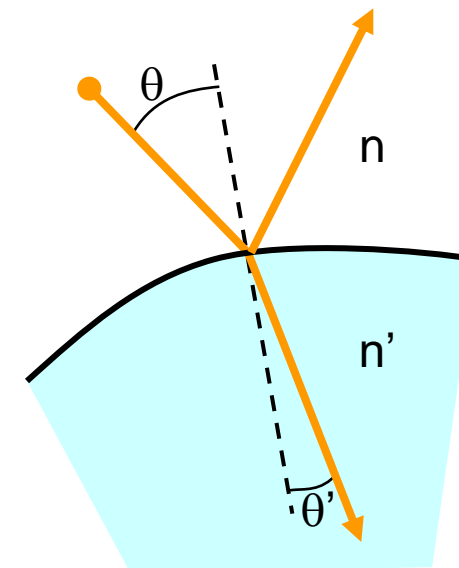
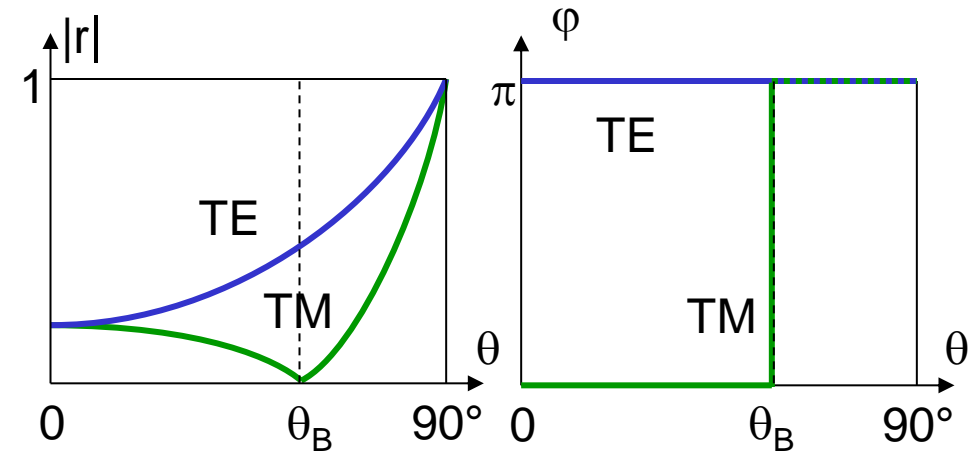
$$r_{\text{TM}} = \frac{n' \cos \theta - n \cos \theta'}{n' \cos \theta + n \cos \theta'}$$

- Perpendicular incidence:

$$R = \left( \frac{n - n'}{n + n'} \right)^2 \quad T = \frac{4nn'}{(n + n')^2}$$

- Brewster's angle:  
No reflection for TM-waves

$$\tan \theta_B = \frac{n'}{n}$$





# Internal reflection and transmission

- From higher to lower  $n$  ( $n > n'$ ), same equations:

$$r_{\text{TE}} = \frac{n \cos \theta - n' \cos \theta'}{n \cos \theta + n' \cos \theta'}$$

$$r_{\text{TM}} = \frac{n' \cos \theta - n \cos \theta'}{n' \cos \theta + n \cos \theta'}$$

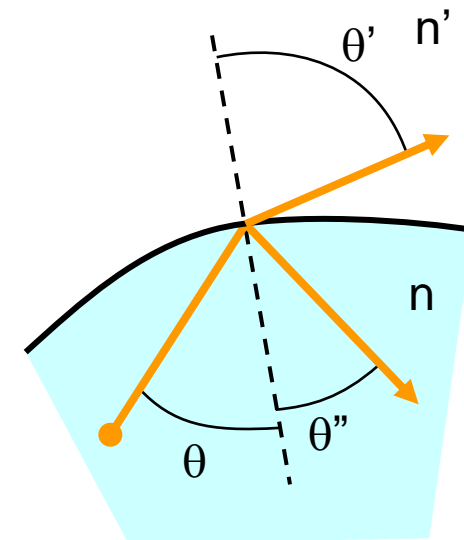
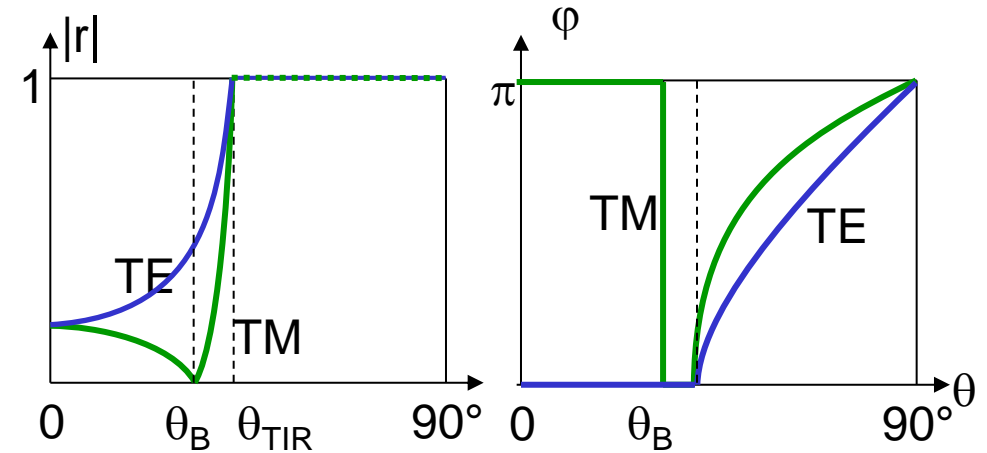
- Brewster's angle:

$$\tan \theta_B = \frac{n'}{n}$$

- Total internal reflection (**TIR**):

No more transmission as the incidence angle becomes too large

$$\sin \theta_{\text{TIR}} = \frac{n'}{n}$$





## Exercise: Brewster angle

Consider a glass plate ( $n = 1.5$ ) in air.

For external reflection:

- Calculate  $\theta_B$
- Calculate  $\theta_{\text{TIR}}$

For internal reflection:

- Calculate  $\theta_B$
- Calculate  $\theta_{\text{TIR}}$



# Power reflection and transmission

- Reflection and transmission of power:

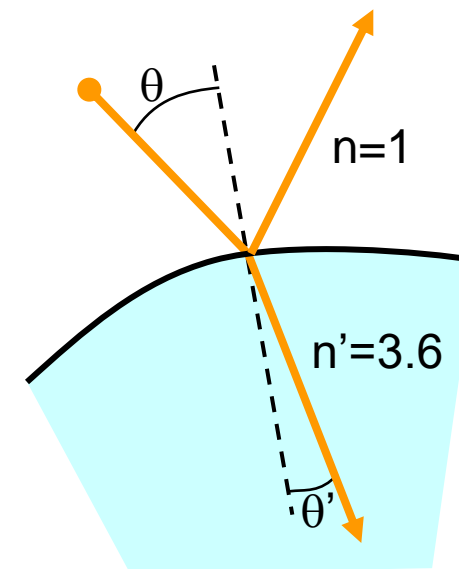
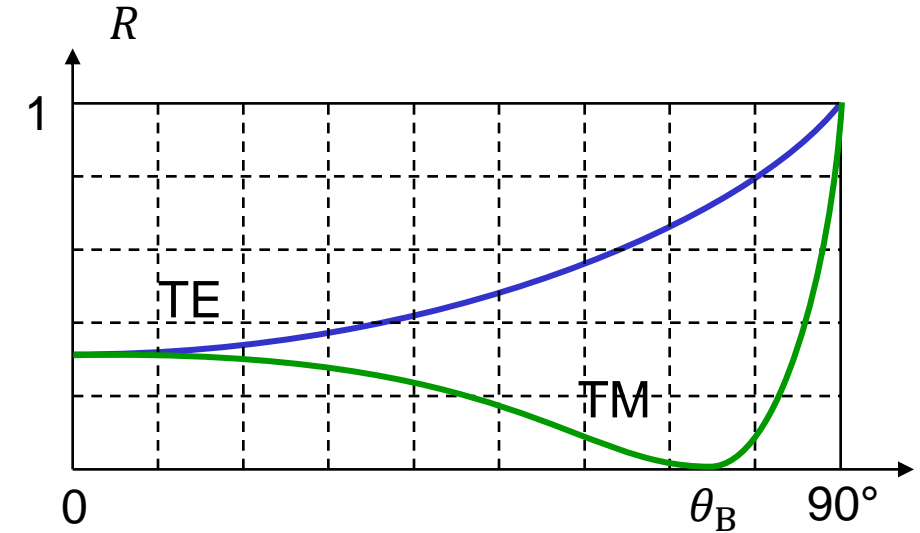
$$R_{\text{TE}} = |r_{\text{TE}}|^2$$

$$T_{\text{TE}} = 1 - R_{\text{TE}} = \frac{n' \cos \theta'}{n \cos \theta} |t_{\text{TE}}|^2$$

$$R_{\text{TM}} = |r_{\text{TM}}|^2$$

$$T_{\text{TM}} = 1 - R_{\text{TM}} = \frac{n' \cos \theta'}{n \cos \theta} |t_{\text{TM}}|^2$$

- Example: GaAs:  $n' = 3.6$







# Absorption

- Dielectric materials which absorb light:
  - described by a complex susceptibility:

$$\chi = \chi_R + j\chi_I, \quad \varepsilon = \varepsilon_0(1 + \chi_R + j\chi_I)$$

$$\begin{aligned}\varepsilon &= \varepsilon_0 \varepsilon_r \\ n &= \sqrt{\varepsilon_r}\end{aligned}$$

- It means:

$$k = k_0 \sqrt{1 + \chi_R + j\chi_I} = k_0(n_R + jn_I) = \beta - \frac{j}{2}\alpha$$

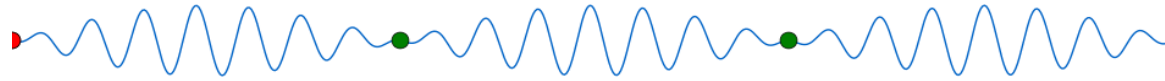
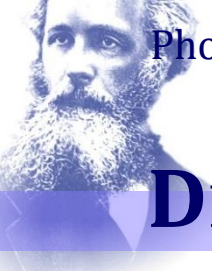
- Therefore:

$$e^{-jkz} = e^{-\frac{1}{2}\alpha z} e^{-j\beta z}$$

Where  $\alpha$ : attenuation or absorption coefficient

and  $\beta$ : propagation constant

The power will decrease exponentially with distance:  $P(z) = P_0 e^{-\alpha z}$



# Dispersion

- Dispersive materials are characterized by:

- $\chi(\nu)$ ,  $n(\nu)$  and  $v(\nu)$

- Phase velocity:

$$v_p = \frac{\omega}{\beta} \qquad n = \frac{c}{v_p} \qquad \text{refractive index}$$

- Group velocity:

$$v_g = \frac{d\omega}{d\beta} \qquad N = \frac{c}{v_g} \qquad \text{group index}$$

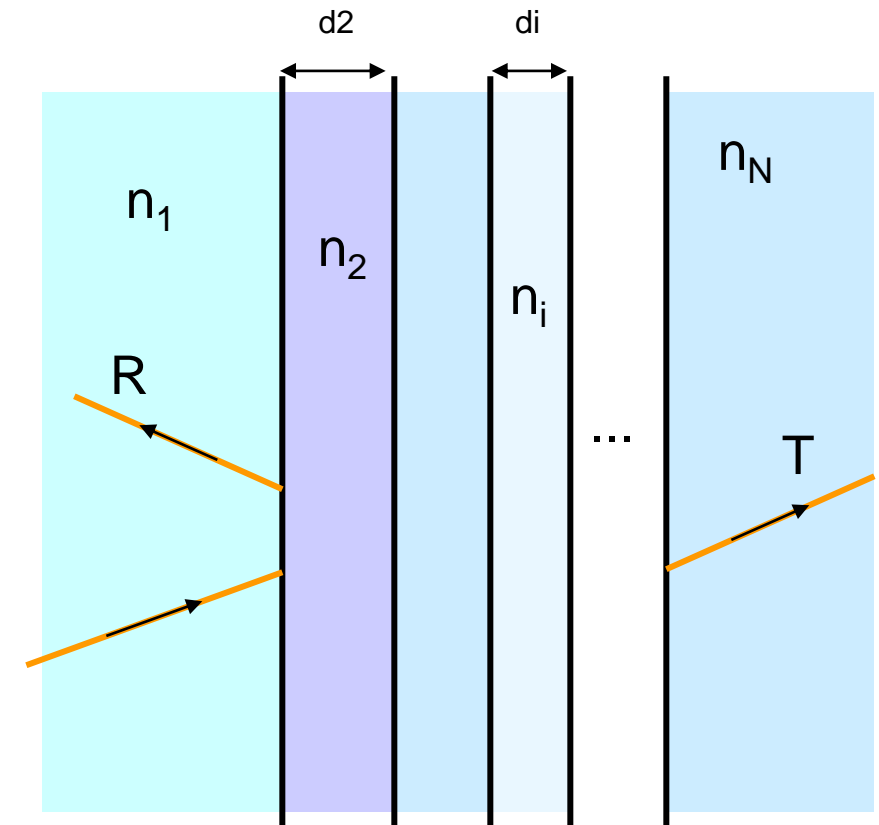
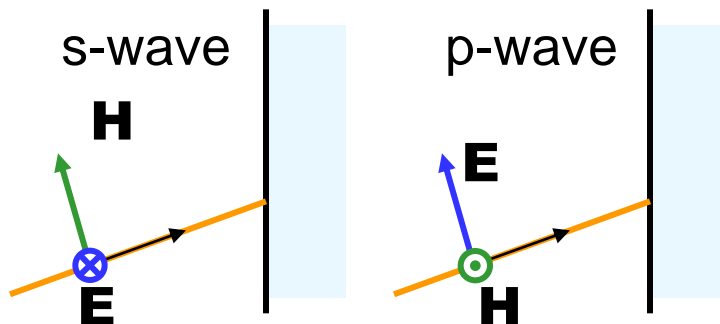
- Material dispersion:

$$\frac{dn}{d\lambda} \qquad N = n - \lambda \frac{dn}{d\lambda}$$



# Multilayered structure – layered media

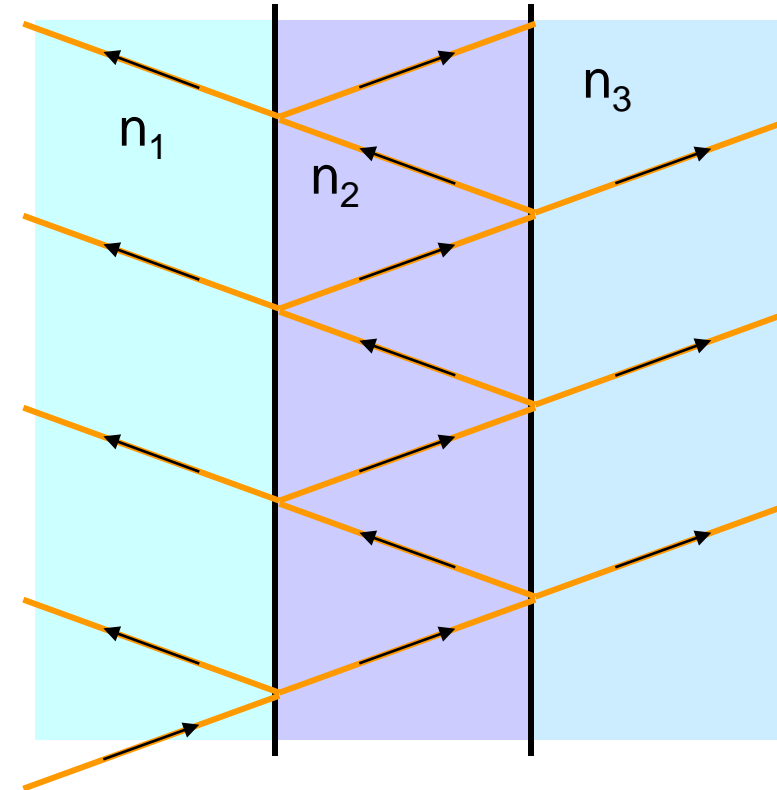
- Layered structure:  
refractive index  $n_i$ , thickness  $d_i$
- To determine:  
what is the reflection and transmission for an incident plane wave with a given incidence direction, wavelength and polarization
- Polarization: 2 independent cases
  - **E**-field parallel to the surface: **s-wave**
  - **H**-field parallel to the surface: **p-wave**





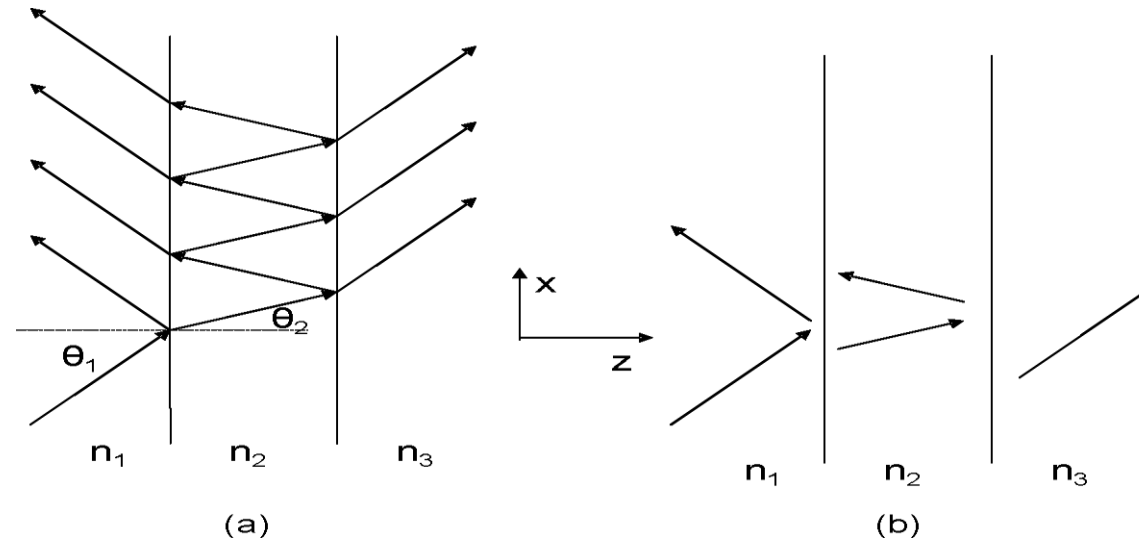
# Three-layer structure

- Simplest layered medium
- = 2 semi-transparent mirrors
- = “Fabry-Perot interferometer”
- = “Fabry-Perot etalon”





# Three-layer structure: 2 analysis methods



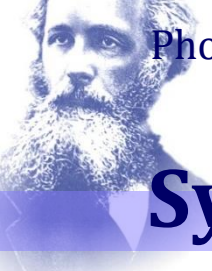
## Method 1

- Wave impinges
- Calculate transmission and reflection (Fresnel)
- Propagation in the layer
- Calculate transmission and reflection (Fresnel)
- Etc. Etc. Etc.
- Sum up all contributions

## Method 2

- An incident plane wave from 1 results in:
- 1 forward and 1 backward wave in layers 1 and 2
- 1 forward wave in layer 3
- Apply boundary conditions on the both interfaces
- Solve a linear system

**The final result of both methods is the same!**



# Symmetrical three-layer structure (1)

- Reflection and transmission of a plate:

$$R = \frac{4|r_{12}|^2 \sin^2 \phi}{|1 - r_{12}^2 e^{-j2\phi}|^2} \quad T = \frac{|t_{12}t_{21}|^2}{|1 - r_{12}^2 e^{-j2\phi}|^2}$$

- where  $\phi = k_{2,z}d = k_0 n_2 d \cos \theta_2 = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda_0} n_2 d \cos \theta_2$

- Reflection and transmission of 1 interface

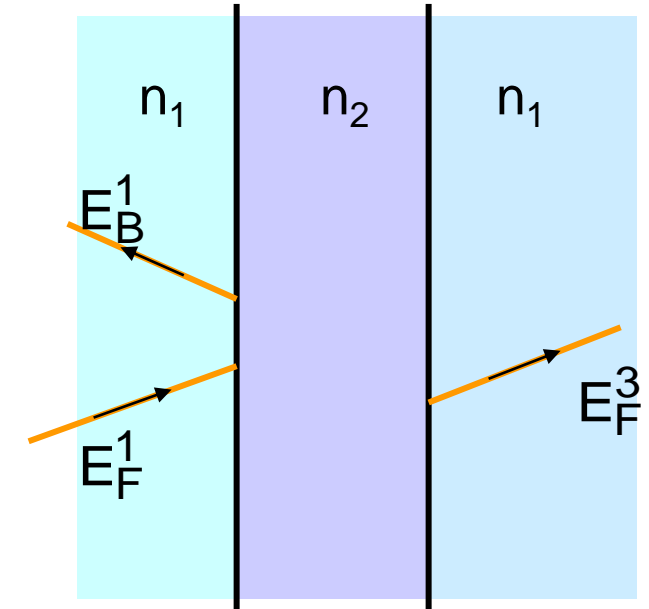
$$R_1 = |r_{12}|^2, \quad T_1 = |t_{12}t_{21}| \quad \text{and} \quad T_1 = 1 - R_1$$

- Transmission of a plate:

$$T = \frac{T_1^2}{1 + R_1^2 - 2R_1 \cos 2\phi} = \frac{(1 - R_1)^2}{(1 - R_1)^2 + 2R_1 - 2R_1 \cos 2\phi}$$

$$= \frac{1}{1 + F \sin^2 \phi} \quad \text{where} \quad F = \frac{4R_1}{(1 - R_1)^2}$$

Airy equation



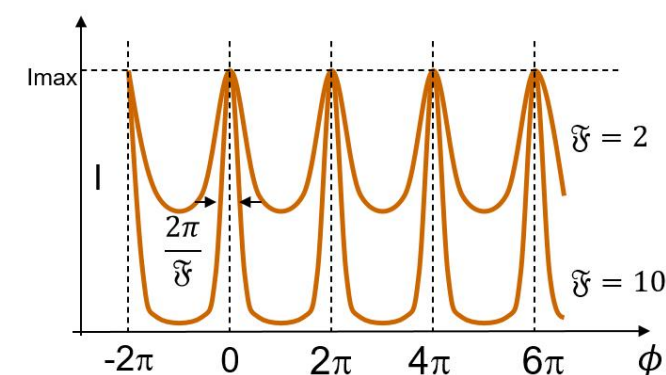
$$\cos 2\phi = 1 - 2 \sin^2 \phi$$

Photonics

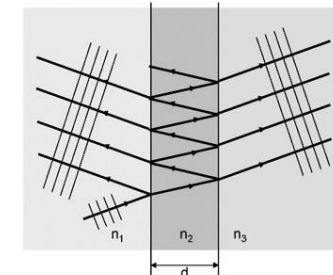
Wave Optics

Interference between multiple waves (3)

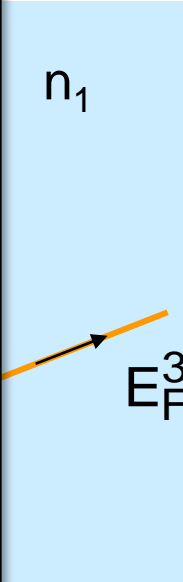
$$I = \frac{I_{\max}}{1 + (2\mathfrak{F}/\pi)^2 \sin^2(\phi/2)}$$



$$\begin{cases} I_{\max} = \frac{I_0}{(1 - |h|)^2} \\ \mathfrak{F} = \frac{\pi\sqrt{|h|}}{1 - |h|} \text{ finesse} \end{cases}$$



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• Reflect

• where

• Reflect

$R_1 = |r|^2$

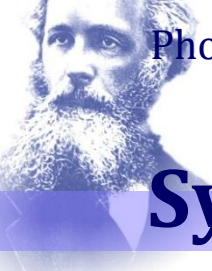
• Transm

$$= \frac{1}{1 + F \sin^2 \phi}$$

where  $F = \frac{4R_1}{(1 - R_1)^2}$

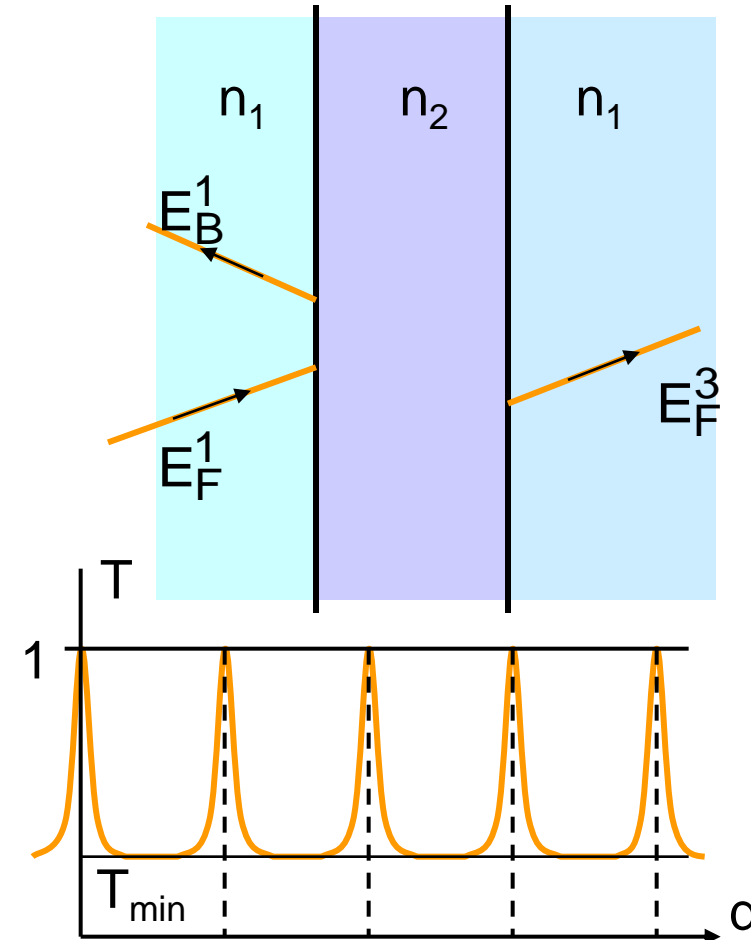
Airy equation

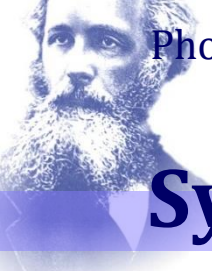




## Symmetrical three-layer structure (2)

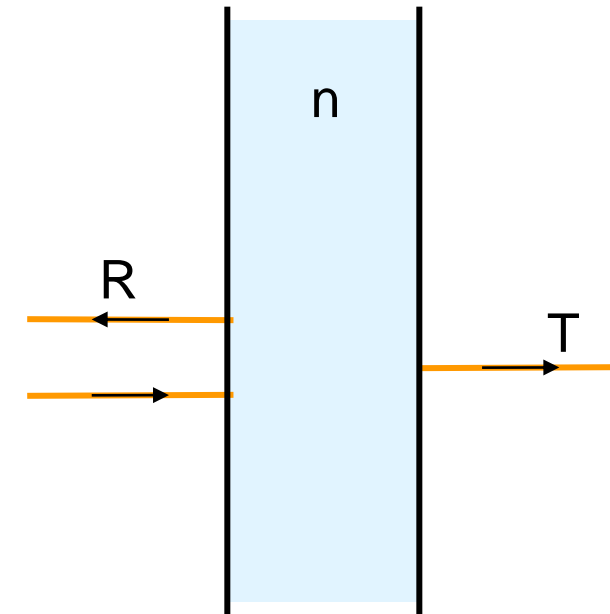
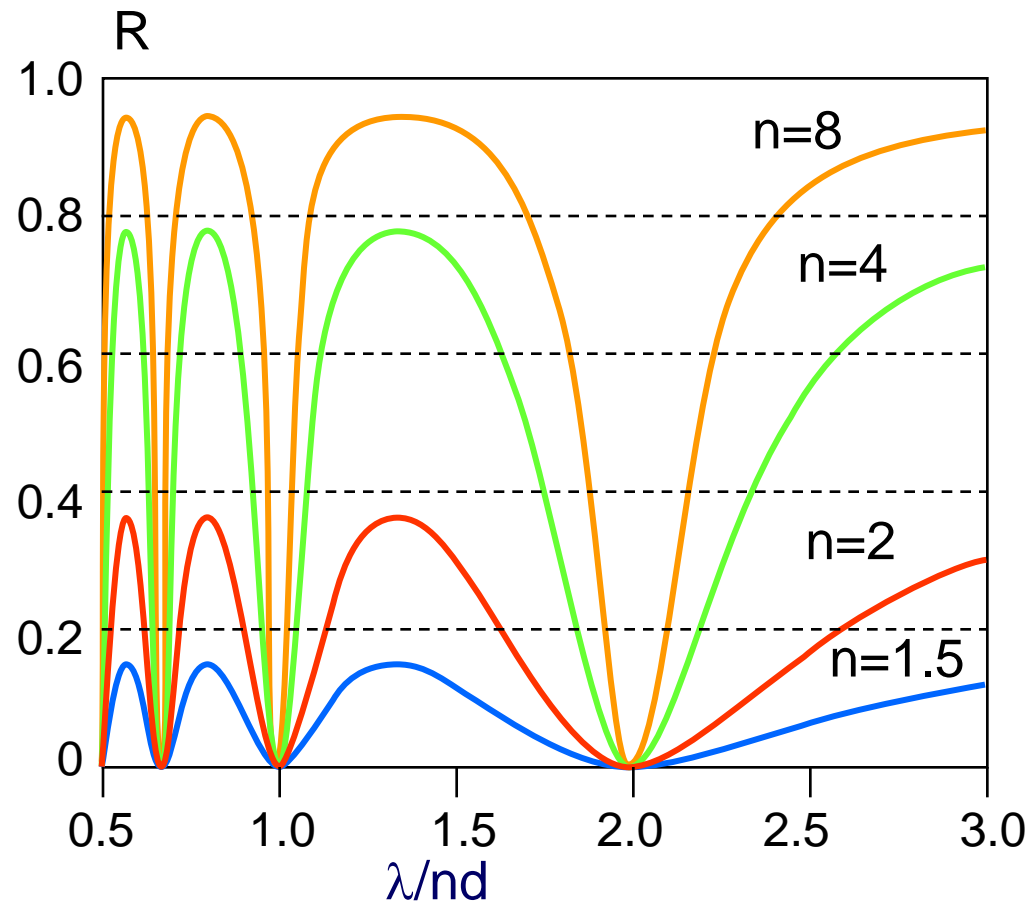
- Transmission of a plate:  $T = \frac{1}{1 + F \sin^2 \phi}$   
where  $F = \frac{4R_1}{(1 - R_1)^2}$
- Perpendicular incidence and maximum transmission:  
i.e.  $\phi = m\pi$   $d = m \frac{\lambda}{2n_2}$   
minimal transmission:  $T_{\min} = \frac{1}{1 + F}$
- Desirable:  $T_{\min}$  as small as possible  
→ large  $F \rightarrow R_1$  close to 1  
⇒ difficult with available materials





## Symmetrical three-layer structure (3)

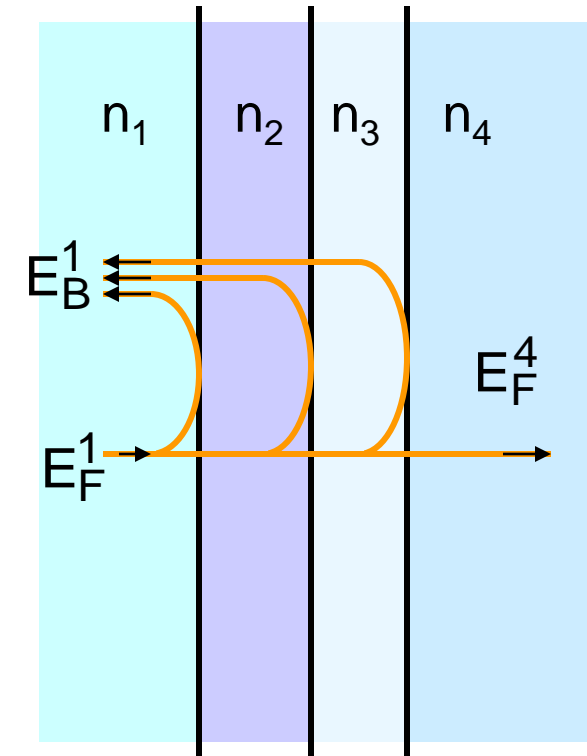
- Reflection of parallel plate with different refractive indices





# Coatings

- Multiple layer structures
  - Multiple reflections at the interfaces
  - Interference of the reflections
    - destructive: anti-reflection coating
    - constructive: high-reflection coating
  - Usually designed for perpendicular incidence
- Application:
  - Dielectric mirrors (HR-coatings)
  - AR-coatings for lenses





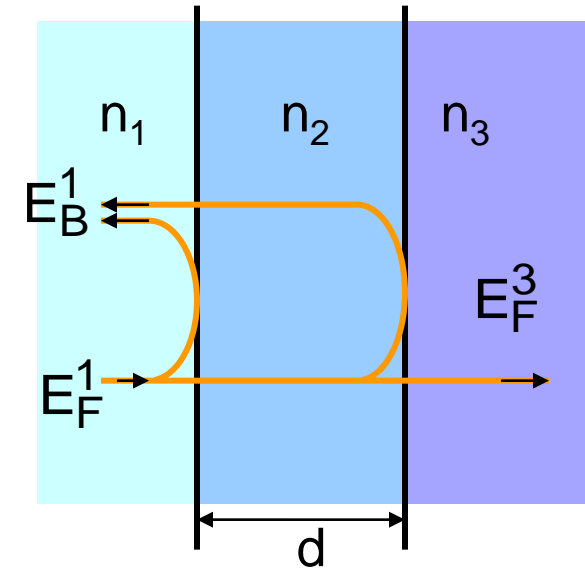
# Anti-reflection coating

- Reflected beams must interfere **destructively**
- if  $n_1 < n_2 < n_3$  (phase shift  $\pi$ )

$$d = \frac{1}{4} \frac{\lambda_0}{n_2} = \frac{\lambda_2}{4} \quad (\text{quarter wave plate})$$

- From Fresnel equations:  $r_{12} = r_{23}$
- Perpendicular incidence:  $r_{ij} = \frac{n_i - n_j}{n_i + n_j}$

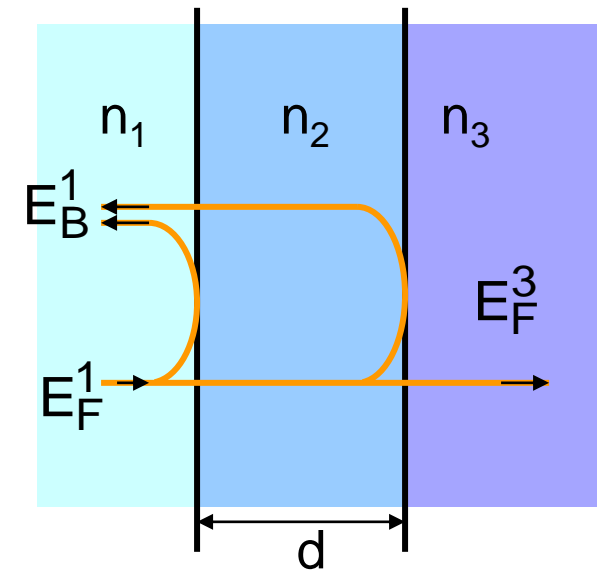
from which:  $n_2 = \sqrt{n_1 n_3}$





## Exercise: anti-reflection coating

- GaAs:  $n_3 = 3.2$  for telecom wavelength, 1550 nm
  - Calculate  $n_2$  for minimum reflection
  - Calculate  $d$  for minimum reflection
  - What is then the total reflection of the coated semiconductor?





# Exercise: anti-reflection coating

- GaAs:  $n_3 = 3.2$  for telecom wavelength

- $n_2$

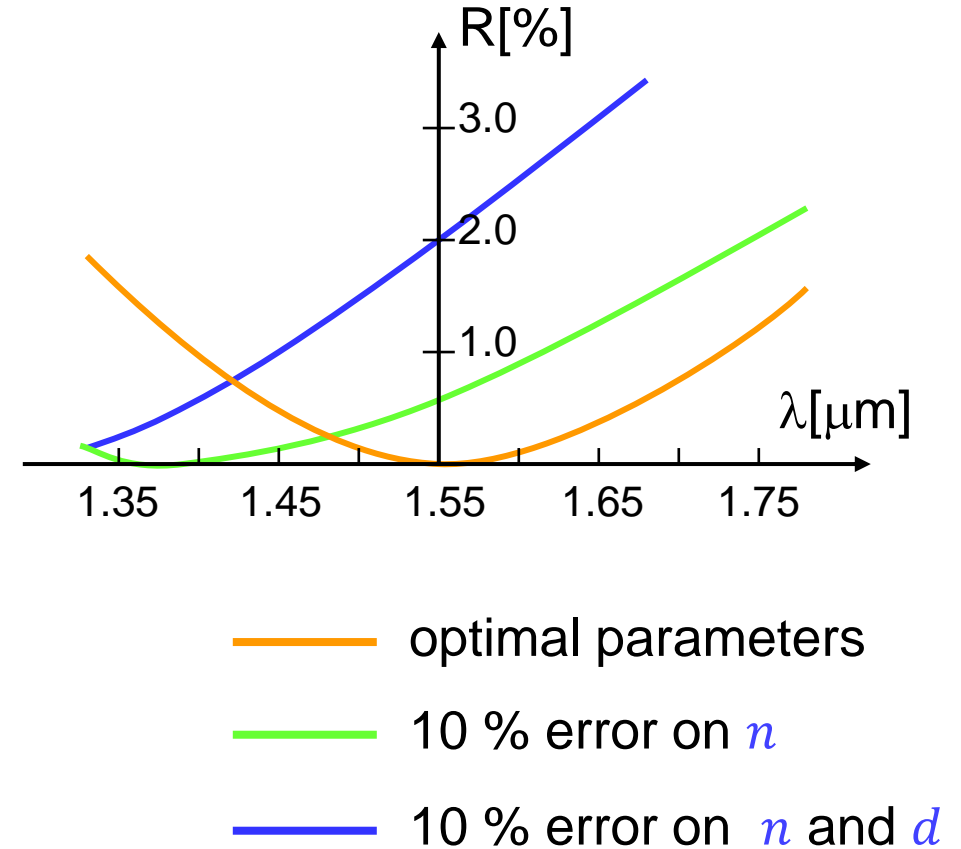
- $d$

- Reflection  $< 0.5\%$  between  
1450 nm and 1650 nm

- Difficult to fabricate in practice

- Material with exact refraction index

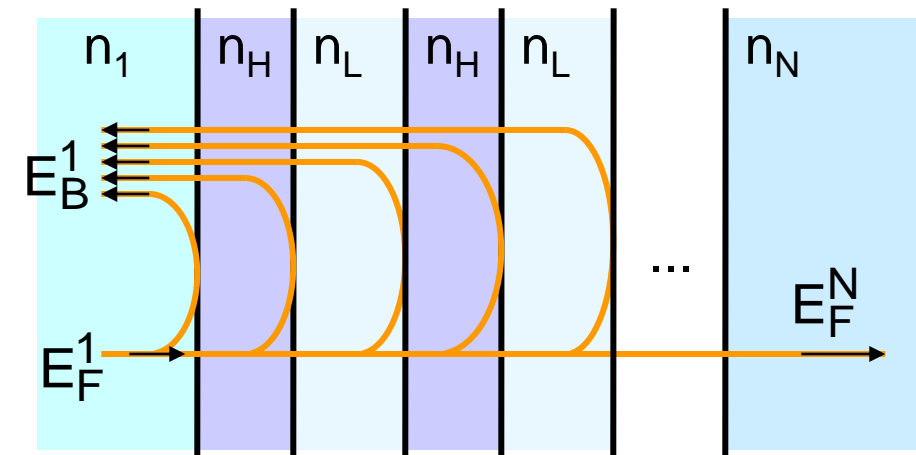
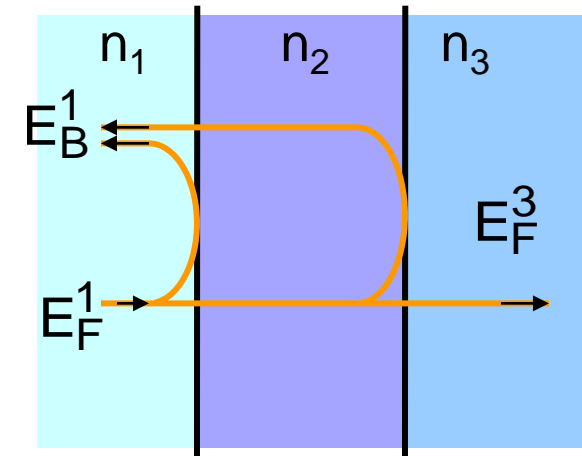
- Thickness  $d$  is critical





# Highly reflective coating (1)

- Two possibilities:
  - quarter-wave plate with  $n_2 > n_1$  and  $n_2 > n_3$
  - multilayered structure of quarter wave plates with high and low refraction index: acts as a Bragg-reflector







# Highly reflective coating (2)

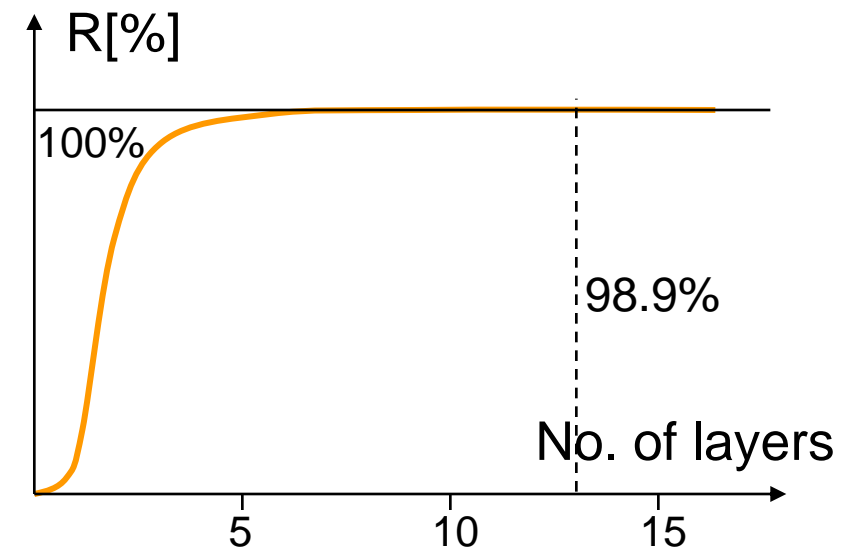
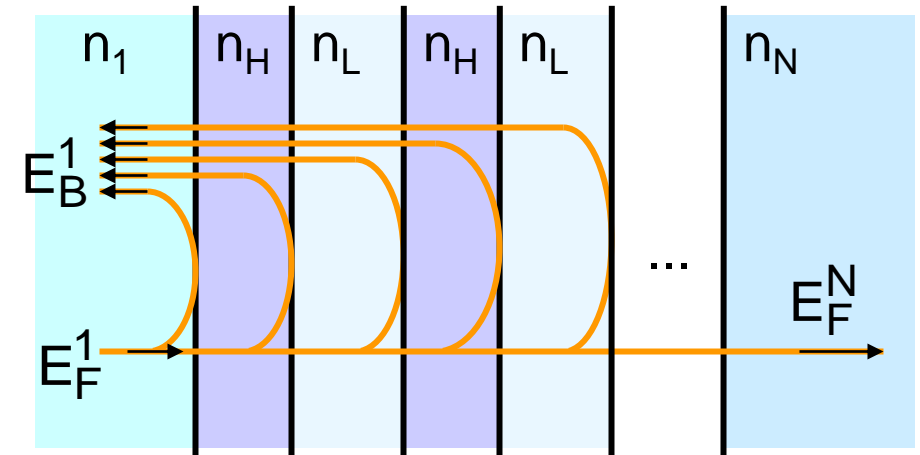
- Constructive interference if  $n_H d_H = n_L d_L = \frac{\lambda_0}{4}$

- $$R = \left( \frac{1 - \left( \frac{n_H}{n_L} \right)^{2N}}{1 + \left( \frac{n_H}{n_L} \right)^{2N}} \right)^2$$

→ converges to 1 for large  $N$

→ better converges for higher  $\frac{n_H}{n_L}$

- HR-coating for He-Ne laser
  - $\lambda = 633 \text{ nm}$
  - $n_H = 2.32$  (zinc sulfide)
  - $n_L = 1.38$  (magnesium fluoride)





# Complex coatings

- Applications
  - filters (wide and narrow band)
  - power splitters
  - polarization splitters
- Design: with special CAD-tools
- Example: sunglasses
  - $T < 1\%$  between 400nm and 500nm
  - $15\% < T < 25\%$  between 510nm and 790nm
  - $T < 1\%$  between 800nm and 900nm
  - 29 layers of  $\text{TiO}_2$  and  $\text{SiO}_2$  with thicknesses between 20nm and 200nm

